AMENDMENTS TO THE CLAIMS

Please amend the claims as follows.

1. (Currently Amended) A method of authenticating communication between a receiver/decoder and a remote server for providing access to a network, the method comprising:

   authenticating the communication using a unique identifier that identifies the receiver/decoder, wherein the unique identifier is based on a subscription for broadcast services of the receiver/decoder;

   wherein the receiver/decoder indirectly accesses the network via a gateway interposed between the receiver/decoder and the remote server, and wherein the identifier authenticates the communication with the gateway.

   ~~using an identifier of the receiver/decoder to authenticate the communication, the identifier being based on an identifier for access to broadcast services,.~~

2. (Original) A method according to claim 1, wherein the identifier is stored on a removable component of the receiver/decoder.

3. (Original) A method according to Claim 1 wherein the identifier is independent of a network login identifier for the receiver/decoder.

4. (Original) A method according to claim 1, wherein the identifier is based on a number unique to a smartcard for use with the receiver/decoder.

5. (Original) A method according to claim 1, wherein the remote server is for accessing the internet.

6. (Original) A method according to claim 1, wherein the remote server is an internet account management system.

7. (Original) A method according to claim 6, wherein an internet account for a user is established by the internet account management system using the identifier of the receiver/decoder.

8. (Original) A method according to Claim 7, wherein the identifier of the receiver/decoder is compared by the internet account management system with a stored list of identifiers of receiver/decoders which may establish internet accounts.

9. (Original) A method according to Claim 7, wherein the remote server comprises means for sending data to an internet service provider and wherein said method comprises the steps of providing details of the internet account to the internet service provider to establish a bi-directional data pathway between the receiver/decoder and the internet service provider.

10. (Original) A method according to claim 1, wherein said identifier is accompanied by data identifying a data pathway to be used for communication between the receiver/decoder and the remote server.

11. (Original) A method according to claim 1, wherein the remote server provides the receiver/decoder with access to a network having network protocols, and data output from the receiver/decoder is converted into data compliant with the network protocols at a location remote from the receiver/decoder.

12. (Currently Amended) A method according to claim 11, wherein the data is converted into said data compliant with the network protocols by [[a]] the gateway intermediate the receiver/decoder and the remote server.

13. (Original) A method according to claim 12, wherein the network comprises a plurality of remote devices, said converted data being communicated by the gateway to one of said remote devices as specified in said data thereby establishing a communication channel between the receiver/decoder and the specified remote device.

14. (Withdrawn) A method of communicating data from a non-internet protocol enabled user terminal to one of a plurality of internet protocol enabled remote devices, the method comprising the steps of:

communicating data using said non-internet protocol from said user terminal to a gateway, said data including a message and specifying a destination for said message from said plurality of remote devices; and

converting at said gateway said data into data using said internet protocol; and

communicating said data using said internet protocol from said gateway to the specified destination remote device, thereby establishing a communication channel between the user terminal and the specified remote device.

15. (Withdrawn) A method according to claim 14, wherein the user terminal is a receiver/decoder.

16. (Withdrawn) A method according to Claim 15, wherein a message instructing termination of the communication channel is communicated from the receiver/decoder to the gateway using the non-internet protocol, the gateway in turn communicating a termination command to the specified remote device using the internet protocol.

17. (Withdrawn) A method according to claim 15, wherein the identification of the receiver/decoder is authenticated by the gateway before the communication channel is established.

18. (Currently Amended) Apparatus for authenticating communication between a receiver/decoder and a remote server for providing access to a network, the apparatus comprising:

the receiver/decoder comprising a unique identifier that identifies the receiver/decoder and is based on a subscription to broadcast services of the receiver/decoder; and

a gateway interposed between the receiver/decoder and the remote server configured to provide indirect access to the network to the receiver/decoder, wherein communication with the gateway is authenticated using the unique identifier associated with the subscription to broadcast services

~~means for using an identifier of the receiver/decoder to authenticate the communication, the identifier being based on an identifier for access to broadcast services,~~

~~wherein the receiver/decoder indirectly accesses the network via a gateway interposed between the receiver/decoder and the remote server~~.

19. (Original) Apparatus according to claim 18, wherein said identifier is accompanied by data identifying a data pathway to be used for communication between the receiver/decoder and the remote server.

20. (Currently Amended) Apparatus according to Claim 18, wherein the remote server provides the receiver/decoder with access to [[a]] the network having network protocols, said apparatus comprising means for converting data output from the receiver/decoder into data compliant with the network protocols.

21. (Currently Amended) Apparatus according to claim 18, comprising [[a]] the gateway intermediate the receiver/decoder and the remote server.

22. (Original) Apparatus according to claim 21, wherein the network comprises a plurality of remote devices, said gateway being adapted to communicate the converted data to one of said remote devices as specified in said data thereby establishing a communication channel between the receiver/decoder and the specified remote device.

23. (Withdrawn) A gateway for communicating data received from a non-internet protocol enabled user terminal to one of a plurality of internet protocol enabled remote devices, the gateway comprising:

means for receiving data communicated using said non-internet protocol from said user terminal, said data including a message and specifying a destination for said message from said plurality of remote devices; and

means for converting the received data into data using said internet protocol; and

means for communicating said data using said internet protocol to the specified destination remote device, thereby establishing a communication channel between the user terminal and the specified remote device.

24. (Withdrawn) A gateway according to claim 23, comprising a plurality of input/output ports each for connection to a respective remote device.

25. (Withdrawn) A gateway according to Claim 23, comprising:

means for identifying a message from the user terminal instructing termination of the communication channel; and

means for passing a termination command to the specified remote device.

26. (Canceled)

27. (Canceled)

28. (Canceled)

29. (Original) A method according to claim 13, wherein a message instructing termination of the communication channel is communicated from the receiver/decoder to the gateway using the non-internet protocol, the gateway in turn communicating a termination command to the specified remote device using the internet protocol.

30. (Original) A method according to claim 12, wherein the identification of the receiver/decoder is authenticated by the gateway before the communication channel is established.